

CLAIMS:

1. A method for content based partial download of a file, comprising the steps of:
 - a. receiving a request for a part of the file;
 - b. obtaining the requested part from the file; and
 - c. downloading the requested part.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said obtaining step (b) further comprises the steps of:
 - b.1 determining whether the file has a standard format;
 - b.2 if the file has a standard format,
 - i. determining the location of the requested part from a content format knowledge of the standard format, otherwise,
 - ii. determining the location of the requested part from a content description of the file; and
 - b.3 if the requested part does not exist,
 - iii. creating the requested part, otherwise,
 - iv. obtaining the requested part from the determined location.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein said obtaining step (b.) further comprises the step of
 - b.4 if the requested part does not exist, creating the requested part.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein:
said file further comprises at least one of
 - i. a standard content format, and
 - ii. a description component and a content component.

5. The method of claim 4, further comprising the steps of:
 - d. determining whether the file has a standard format;
 - e. if the file has a standard content format,
 - i. determining the location of the requested part from the standard content format, otherwise,
 - ii. determining the location of the requested part from the content description of the file;
 - f. determining if the requested part exists from the determined location; and
 - g. if the requested part does not exist, creating the requested part.
6. The method of claim 5, wherein said location is a proxy such as a universal resource locator (URL).
7. The method of claim 6 wherein said downloading step further comprises the step of downloading said requested part over a network.
8. The method of claim 1 wherein said downloading step further comprises the step of downloading said requested part over a network.
9. The method of claim 4, wherein:
 - said description component comprises at least one of a content identifier, a content type, a content location, a content size, a set at least one content attribute; and
 - said content component comprises content data and, optionally, at least one marker to demarcate a content part thereof.
10. The method of claim 4, wherein said standard format is based on at least one of eXtensible Markup Language (XML), Microsoft ® structured storage object, compound documents, MP3, and JPG.

11. A method for creating and maintaining a content repository, comprising the steps of:
structuring the content repository to have a content description component and a content data component;
receiving one of new or update content data;
making an entry the content description component corresponding to the format of the received content data; and
storing the received content data in the content data component.
12. The method of claim 11, wherein:
said content description component comprises at least one of a content identifier, a content type, a content location, a content size, a set at least one content attribute; and
said content data component comprises content data and, optionally, at least one marker to demarcate a content part thereof.
13. A method of providing a partial download, comprising the steps of:
providing a content repository according to the method of claim 12; and
providing a partial download service according to the method of 1.
14. A method of providing a partial download, comprising the steps of:
providing a content repository according to the method of claim 12; and
providing a partial download service according to the method of claim 7.
15. A storage medium storing a content data repository, comprising:
the content repository having a content description component and a content data component;
an entry in the content description component corresponding to the format of a content data; and
an entry in the content data component of the content data corresponding to the content description entry in the content data component.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein:

said content description component comprises at least one of a content identifier, a content type, a content location of the corresponding content data entry in the content component, a content entry size, a set at least one content attribute; and

said content data component optionally further comprises at least one marker to demarcate a content part thereof.

17. A system for creating and maintaining a content based repository, comprising:

a receiver for receipt of a content data;

a storage medium configured as a database for storing said repository thereon, wherein said database comprises a content description component and a content data component

a control logic module configured to

- i. receive the content data
- ii. one of create and update an entry in the content description component corresponding to a format of the received content data, and
- iii. store the received content data in the content data component.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein:

said content description component comprises at least one of a content identifier, a content type, a location of the corresponding content data, a content size, a set at least one content attribute, and

said content data component comprises the content data and, optionally, at least one marker to demarcate a content part thereof.

19. The system of claim 18, wherein the format is a standard format based on at least one of eXtensible Markup Language (XML), Microsoft ® structured storage object, compound document, MP3, and JPG.

20. A system for a content based partial download of a part of a file, comprising :

a transmitter for transmitting the content based partial download;

a control logic module configured to

- i. obtain the part from the file; and
- ii. download the obtained part via the transmitter.

21. The system of claim 20, wherein said control logic module is further configured to:
determining whether the file has a standard format;

if the file has a standard format,

- iii. determine the location of the requested part from a content format knowledge of the standard format, otherwise,
- iv. determine the location of the requested part from a content description of the file; and

if the requested part does not exist,

- v. create the requested part, otherwise,
- vi. obtain the requested part from the determined location.

22. The system of claim 20, wherein:

said file further comprises at least one of

- iii. a standard content format, and
- iv. a description component and a content component.

23. The system of claim 21, wherein:

said description component comprises at least one of a content identifier, a content type, a content location, a content size, a set at least one content attribute; and

said content component comprises content data and, optionally, at least one marker to demarcate a content part thereof.

24. The system of claim 20, wherein said location is a proxy such as a universal resource locator (URL).

25. The system of claim 20 wherein said downloading step further comprises the step of downloading said requested part over a network.

26. The method of claim 21, wherein said standard format is based on at least one of eXtensible Markup Language (XML), Microsoft ® structured storage object, compound document, MP3, and JPG.

27. The system of claim 20 further comprising:

a receiver configured to receive a request for the content based partial download of the part of the file; and

wherein, said control logic module is further configured to obtain the requested part from the file.

28. A content based repository stored on a storage medium, comprising:

a content description component having at least one of a content identifier, a content type, a content location, a content size, a set at least one content attributes; and

a content data component having a content data part and, optionally, at least one marker to demarcate a content part thereof.